



Read to Me Library Stars

Background:

In order to document an increase in the number of libraries who provide early literacy information, programs and services through outreach to at-risk families or children who have difficulty using the library in their communities and to recognize and support their efforts, the Idaho Commission for Libraries initiated the Read to Me Library Stars campaign.

Process:

The Read to Me Library Stars campaign began in March 2003. All libraries (including branches) are invited to apply for Read to Me Library Star status. Applications can come in at any time. Applications will be reviewed and approved by Commission staff.

Libraries designated as Read to Me Stars will receive:

- Certificate of recognition from the State Librarian
- Read to Me banner
- Poster from the Public Library Association's early literacy initiative
- Professional development book
- Feature article on the Read to Me web site and in the ICFL newsletter
- Expenses paid for 2 staff members to attend annual Read to Me meeting

Read to Me Library Stars are asked to:

- Display decal and banner/sign at their library
- Provide a link to the Read to Me web site, if the library has a web site
- Invite local and/or state policy makers to their library at least twice yearly
- Provide feedback to the Idaho Commission for Libraries on effectiveness of statewide Read to Me activities and local early literacy needs
- Present at workshops and conferences, if requested
- Serve as a mentor to other libraries

For questions or assistance, please contact:

- ★ Peggy McClendon / peggy.mcclendon@libraries.idaho.gov
- ★ Stephanie Bailey-White / stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov
(800) 458-3271 or 334-2150 (Boise area)



Read to Me Library Stars

APPLICATION

Library: _____

Address: _____

Contact person: _____ Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Today's date: _____

Signature of library director

Signature of library board president

To be considered for Read to Me Stars, please fill out the following survey. See requirements for each category. Use the space provided or attach additional pages as needed.

OUTREACH -

☐ During the past 12 months, our library provided some type of service / program on a regular basis (weekly, monthly, or quarterly) outside the library - **must meet at least 2 criteria in this category, but check all that apply:**

- ☐ Storytime/lapsit for Head Start, day care providers, other
- ☐ Deposit collections
- ☐ Parent/caregiver workshop(s) on early literacy, reading, etc. (at least once a year)
- ☐ Teen parent program
- ☐ First Book or other book give away program
- ☐ Scholarships for nonresident library cards for underserved target audience
- ☐ Sponsor booths at fairs, conferences, etc. to promote reading
- ☐ Distribution of "Born to Read" - type packets to new parents
- ☐ Other _____

Please describe outreach service/program: where it is located, frequency of activities, and tell whether activities are funded in the library budget or through grant funds or other special funds:

COLLABORATION / PARTNERSHIPS -

☐ During the past 12 months, our library worked with at least one community partner on an ongoing basis to provide services / programs for an underserved target audience - **must meet 1 criterion in this category, but check all that apply:**

- ☐ Participates in a community coalition focused on children/families/literacy.
- ☐ Provides services/programs for partner organization
- ☐ Works with schools and/or serves on school improvement team
- ☐ Has a partnership agreement/contract in place
- ☐ Other _____

Please describe partner organization and collaborative activities, sources of funding (library budget, grants, other special funds), and **attach a letter of support from at least one partner (letter should detail partnership activities which support early literacy):**

IN LIBRARY PROGRAMS / SERVICES -

☐ During the past 12 months, our library provided programs and/or services for families with children birth to age 8 on an ongoing basis (weekly, monthly, or quarterly) - **must meet at least 2 criteria in this category, but check all that apply:**

- ☐ Storytime programs for children ages 3-5
- ☐ Lapsit programs for children under age 3
- ☐ Family programs, such as Family Reading Nights
- ☐ Bilingual programs
- ☐ Summer reading programs for underserved target audience
- ☐ Other _____

Please describe type of program/service, including frequency and sources of funding (library budget, grants, other special funds):

COLLECTION - Libraries must meet 2 criteria in this category, but check all that apply:

- ☐ Has a Collection Development policy which addresses library materials for birth to age 8
- ☐ Spends a portion of the book budget on library materials for birth to age 8
- ☐ Has utilized grant funds to expand library materials for birth to age 8
- ☐ Has board books in children's collection
- ☐ Provides deposit collections to Head Start, day care providers, etc.
- ☐ Circulates story kits or themed book bags
- ☐ Has bilingual books in collection if demographics show a significant non English speaking population
- ☐ Other _____

Please describe how the library collection supports early literacy activities, including sources of funding for the collection (library budget, grants, other special funds):

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT- Libraries must meet 1 criterion in this category, but check all that apply:

- ☐ Has at least one children's services staff member with a MLS
- ☐ Has at least one staff member who has attended training in early literacy
- ☐ Provides in-service training for other library staff in early literacy services/programs
- ☐ Provides training for community members (parents, caregivers, partner agency staff) in early literacy
- ☐ Other _____

Please describe staff qualifications and any community and/or in-service training for library staff provided:

In a paragraph, please tell us what difference Read to Me has made in your library and/or community: (attach news clippings or other publicity materials)